



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 08 June 2007

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

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<http://www.dhs.gov/>

## Daily Highlights

- The Oregonian reports the Bonneville Power Administration's massive electrical substation near the Columbia River has been sabotaged by metal thieves; two Bonneville Power facilities have been hit in the past week. (See item [4](#))
- The Associated Press reports a South Carolina man was charged Wednesday, June 6, with threatening to poison the capital city's water system using chemicals he had illegally buried in his back yard. (See item [18](#))
- WBRC reports Birmingham and Trussville, Alabama, water customers were notified on Wednesday, June 6, of mandatory water restrictions taking effect in response to the continued drought as Birmingham Water Works moves to its Stage Three water conservation plan. (See item [19](#))

## DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

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**Service Industries:** [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *June 07, Associated Press* — **State concerned about cracks discovered in Yankee component.** Concerned about new cracking in a component at Vermont Yankee nuclear plant, state regulators want to know whether a recent boost in its power generation may have been the

cause. Twenty four cracks — or the beginnings of them — have been discovered in the steam dryer of the Vernon plant, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The state now wants additional information on five of them from the NRC and plant owner Entergy Nuclear, said Sarah Hofmann, director of public advocacy for the Department of Public Service. “There are some cracks we are interested in that are possibly caused by stresses from the power uprate,” Hofmann said. Entergy officials say the cracks don’t compromise safety and are not an indication of anything being amiss. Plant officials say the state’s interest is related to whether the steam dryer could cause an unplanned shutdown that would reduce the state’s electricity supply. Tapes of an underwater inspection of the dryer were reviewed by William Sherman, a special consultant for the state, and he came away concerned about five cracks, Hofmann said.

Source: <http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070606/NEWS/70606014/-1/NEWS05>

2. *June 07, Reuters* — **U.S. oil companies shy on spending.** Oil companies are reluctant to spend money to boost North American fuel production capacity, fearful that demand could slump under the weight of record gasoline prices, executives and analysts said at the Reuters Energy Summit this week. The situation, along with growing fears that fuel producers are unable to smoothly run their plants due to tougher environmental standards, signals that the continent may have to get used to high pump prices and rely increasingly on fuel shipments from abroad. In the past year, energy companies have cut U.S. refinery growth plans by one-third, Guy Caruso of the U.S. Energy Information Administration, said. Experts said federal regulations requiring low sulfur fuels have made refineries increasingly complex, meaning small operating glitches could take out larger swaths of production. They added that a great deal of industry caution in the wake of a deadly explosion at BP Plc's Texas City refinery in 2005 may also be slowing the speed of unit restarts. "The complexity of these refineries has increased over time," said Petro-Canada's Brenneman. "The more stuff you integrate into an existing facility, the more complex it gets, and the more exposure you have to one problem rippling through a refinery."

Source: [http://www.nzherald.co.nz/section/9/story.cfm?c\\_id=9&objectid=10444175](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/section/9/story.cfm?c_id=9&objectid=10444175)

3. *June 07, Charlotte Observer (NC)* — **Guards always on high alert.** Inside Duke's McGuire nuclear plant in North Carolina, an armed guard was never far from visitors recently touring one of two storage pools that hold nuclear waste inside metal casings. Visitors enter wearing street clothes covered with yellow tape, used to seal pockets and hold down sunglasses and other items that might fall into the spent fuel pools. About every 18 months, uranium pellets inside the rods are injected into the reactors under the safety of the 23 feet of water, treated with boron to prevent unwanted nuclear reactions. The depth of the water keeps the radiation trapped. Items brought in by visitors are logged in and accounted for later. Badges worn around the neck record radiation exposure. A record for each worker and visitor is kept. Personal items are scanned for exposure at various checkpoints. At most entrances, a guard with a firearm stands watching the reactors, the pool and the nuclear waste.

Source: <http://www.charlotte.com/business/story/150597.html>

4. *June 06, Oregonian* — **BPA facilities hit again by suspected metal thieves.** The Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) massive electrical substation near the Columbia River has been sabotaged by metal thieves, police and BPA officials said. Two BPA facilities have been hit in

the past week. Law enforcement officials have been dealing with the problem of metal theft for years. Everything from guard rails and light poles to copper wire, aluminum fencing and traffic signs is winding up at metal recycling yards. But stealing metal from an operating substation, said BPA spokesperson, Heidi Helwig, is "extremely dangerous." Last October, a Pasco, WA, man was electrocuted while trying to steal copper wiring from the fenced Clark Public Utilities station northwest of Vancouver. Helwig said thefts and vandalism at BPA facilities costs ratepayers \$500,000 to \$1 million each year. Saturday, a K-9 dog for the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office caught up with a suspected metal thief near the Troutdale substation. Officers found several large aluminum pulleys in the back of the man's car, and wire cutters and tools in a backpack, according to Lt. Jason Gates, spokesperson for the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office.

Source: [http://blog.oregonlive.com/breakingnews/2007/06/bpa\\_facilities\\_hit\\_again\\_by\\_su.html](http://blog.oregonlive.com/breakingnews/2007/06/bpa_facilities_hit_again_by_su.html)

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## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

5. *June 06, Associated Press* — **Barge company, three workers charged over benzene leak.** A barge company from Belle Chasse, LA, and three workers were indicted by a federal grand jury for allegedly patching a barge that was leaking a chemical into the Ohio River and sending it off with another company. They were charged with violating the Ports and Waterway Safety Act, the Clean Water Act and conspiracy, according to a statement Wednesday from U.S. Attorney David Huber's office. The indictment, returned in Bowling Green, KY, alleges that the barge began leaking June 16, 2005, and that the leak was not reported to the Coast Guard as required. The grand jury also charged that the defendants concealed the leak, patched it and passed the barge to another barge company for transit on the river without letting the company know about the leak. Four days later, the patch gave way, causing another leak and prompting people on the second company's vessel to seek medical attention, the prosecutor's statement said. Benzene is used to make products such as plastics and detergents, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Website.

Source: <http://www.houmatoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070606/APN/706062015>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

6. *June 07, Computing* — **Phishers escaping the net.** Security software companies are endangering efforts to target phishers by skewing the statistics to make the problem appear intractable, say experts. Research by Cambridge University shows that more than half of the 35,518 sites reported for phishing between February and April 2007 were run by the single Rock-Phish gang. But by emphasizing the high number of individual incidents, software

suppliers are making police less likely to investigate the source of the attacks, says Richard Clayton, report co-author and advisor to the House of Lords committee on Internet security. "Security vendors are happy to accept inflated statistics to make the problem seem more important," said Clayton. "But the police will not prioritize investigations if there appear to be hundreds of small-scale phishing attacks rather than one criminal group." Targeting Rock-Phish would significantly reduce the problem at a stroke, says Clayton. "Law enforcement agencies need to correlate attacks more, because instead of opening 18,000 different crime reports you only need to open one," he said. The Cambridge study is the first to analyze the success of Rock-Phish, a gang known to the security community since 2005.

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/computing/news/2191522/phishers-escaping-net>

7. *June 06, Websense Security Labs* — **Malicious Website/Malicious Code: IRS scam downloading new Trojan Horse.** Websense Security Labs has discovered a new e-mail spam variant similar to attacks previously launched on the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Better Business Bureau (BBB). The spoofed e-mail claims to be from the IRS. The message claims that IRS is investigating the recipient and the recipient's company for tax fraud. The e-mail prompts the reader download a document to help resolve the issue. The document is an executable written in Delphi with the MD5 of (9d0252348a2b470be5950c216993f7ce). The infected document was not detected by any anti-virus programs tested. The filename is Complaint.doc.exe, and is hosted on a server based in China.

Source: <http://www.websense.com/securitylabs/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=779>

8. *June 06, Computerworld* — **Massachusetts credit union bills TJX \$590k for breach-related costs.** HarborOne Credit Union in Brockton, MA, has sent The TJX Companies Inc. an invoice for \$590,000 for what the financial institution says it incurred in actual costs and reputational damage as a result of the data compromise disclosed by the retailer in January. The bill was sent to TJX on April 30, but the company so far has not responded or commented on it in any fashion, said James Blake, the president and CEO of the 100,000-member, \$1.4 billion credit union. "The bill was for both direct operational costs that we incurred reissuing new debit cards to our customers, as well as the costs to us from a reputational standpoint," he said. According to Blake, the TJX breach resulted in HarborOne having to block and reissue about 9,000 cards at a cost of around \$90,000. The remaining \$500,000 is what Blake believes the breach cost the credit union in terms of brand damage. According to Blake, in the last year alone, HarborOne has had to reissue debit cards more than 30 times to customers as a result of data breaches at various retailers.

Source: [http://computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9023778&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc\\_top](http://computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9023778&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top)

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

9. *June 07, Department of Transportation* — **Nine cities named semi-finalist for federal funding to fight traffic.** Nine of America's most congested cities are semi-finalists for a federal program that will provide a total of \$1.1 billion to fight traffic jams, Department of Transportation Secretary Mary E. Peters announced on Thursday, June 7. Speaking at a news conference in New York City, Peters announced her Department will consider proposals for its

Urban Partnership program from Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Minneapolis–St. Paul, Miami, New York City, San Diego, San Francisco, and Seattle, with plans to announce winners by mid–August. Together, the nine cities chosen as semi–finalists in the competition represent one–third of all highway congestion recorded among the nation’s 85 largest cities, and handle about 20 percent of all vehicle travel in the U.S. In addition to funding, the Department will support winning proposals with technical advice and an expedited review process, she added.  
Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot5707.htm>

10. *June 07, Associated Press* — **British company tests biofueled train.** Britain's first biofueled passenger train pulled out of a London station on Thursday, June 7, at the start of a six–month test intended to measure the feasibility of replacing diesel power with biofuel. The train, run by Virgin Trains, will use a blended fuel made up of 20 percent biodiesel, which is derived from biological material — typically vegetable oil. Several British train companies are weighing whether to use biodiesel in their locomotives, and the test is being run in collaboration with the Association of Train Operating Companies, which represents Britain's train industry, and the Rail Safety & Standards Board. The train will run for six months, during which time engineers will measure the fuel's effects on the engine.  
Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2007-06-07-biofuel-train s\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2007-06-07-biofuel-train s_N.htm)

11. *June 07, Associated Press* — **Man held in bomb threat at Newark Liberty Airport.** A man who allegedly claimed he had a bomb inside his luggage was arrested at Newark Liberty International Airport on Wednesday night, June 6, after being subdued by federal air marshals. The threat proved to be a hoax, authorities said, and no passengers or airline employees were injured in the 7:30 p.m. EDT incident. It occurred at a Continental Airlines ticket counter on the international departures level of Terminal C. Osbaldo Mejias, who is in his 40s, was charged with making a terroristic threat, said Alan Hicks, a spokesperson for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates the airport. Hicks said that Mejias told a Continental customer service agent that he had a bomb in his bag. Officials said the incident resulted in the brief closure of part of the ticketing area, but didn't impede screening or delay flights.  
Source: [http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200706070508DOWJONESDJONLINE000484\\_FORTUNE5.htm](http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200706070508DOWJONESDJONLINE000484_FORTUNE5.htm)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

12. *June 07, Memphis Business Journal* — **FedEx lease with airport to exceed \$240 million.** FedEx Corp. has signed a 30–year lease agreement with the Memphis–Shelby County Airport Authority, under which the package shipper will pay rent of \$6.8 million in the first year. According to an SEC filing, subsidiary FedEx Express will continue to lease property at Memphis International Airport for its hub operations, including its primary sorting and handling facility, aircraft hangars, aircraft ramp areas, vehicle parking areas, flight training and fuel facilities, administrative offices and warehouse space. The 30.5 million–square–foot area will cost the Memphis giant \$6.8 million this year; the rate will go up to \$7.9 million in 2008.  
Source: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bizj/070605/1472673.html?.v=1>

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## **Agriculture Sector**

**13. *June 06, Stop Soybean Rust News* — New soybean rust on kudzu found in Louisiana.**

Louisiana officials have found Asian soybean rust in kudzu only 30 feet from a soybean field in St. Mary Parish. This is the 24th rust-positive U.S. parish or county this year. "This kudzu was being observed very carefully due to its proximity to a soybean field," officials said.

Source: <http://www.stopsoybeanrust.com/viewStory.asp?StoryID=1046>

**14. *June 05, CBC News (Canada)* — Manitoba's first anthrax case of the year identified in cattle.**

Anthrax caused the sudden death of an animal in southeast Manitoba, Canada's Rural Municipality of Stuartburn this spring, laboratory testing indicates. The farm involved also had anthrax last summer, Sandra Stevens, a disease control specialist with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, told CBC News. Last year, an anthrax outbreak in Manitoba and Saskatchewan was the worst in recent years. In Manitoba, between July 14 and October 11, anthrax killed 148 livestock spread across 22 premises in eight rural municipalities. In Saskatchewan, more than 800 animals died.

Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/manitoba/story/2007/06/05/manitoba-anthrax.html>

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## **Food Sector**

**15. *June 06, Food Safety and Inspection Service* — California firm expands recall of ground beef.**

United Food Group, LLC, a Vernon, CA, establishment, is voluntarily expanding its June 3 recall of ground beef products because they may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection (FSIS) Service announced Wednesday, June 6. A link between illnesses in several states and the ground beef subject to recall was determined through an investigation carried out by the California Department of Health Services and the Colorado Department of Health, in coordination with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The expanded recall totals approximately 370,000 pounds. The ground beef products in the expanded recall were produced on April 13, while the products subject to the original recall were produced on April 20. The ground beef products were shipped to retail distribution centers in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. E. coli O157:H7 is a potentially deadly bacterium that can cause bloody diarrhea and dehydration. The very young, seniors and persons with compromised immune systems are the most susceptible to foodborne illness.

Source: [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Recall\\_025\\_2007\\_Expanded/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_025_2007_Expanded/index.asp)

**16. *June 06, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — Dressing recalled.** Toby's Family Foods is recalling Toby's Lite Sour Crème and Toby's Toasted Sesame Dressing because the products may be contaminated with Salmonella, an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Toby's Lite Sour Crème and Toby's Toasted Sesame Dressing were distributed primarily in Oregon, as well as Washington and California, through natural food and specialty retailers. No illnesses have been reported to date, and no other products produced by Toby's

Family Foods are affected. The recall was prompted by the potential contamination of an ingredient, MaraNatha Sesame Tahini. The manufacturer, California-based InSpired Natural Foods, was alerted to the situation during a routine sample testing, and the company has since put additional safety measures in place.

Source: [http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/toby06\\_07.html](http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/toby06_07.html)

17. *June 06, Associated Press* — **Dog food recalled for possible salmonella.** A pet food maker Wednesday, June 6, recalled some of its dog food sold exclusively at Wal-Mart Stores Inc. because of concerns about possible salmonella contamination. The recall issued by Brentwood, TN-based Doane Pet Care Co. is unrelated to recent pet food recalls connected to tainted Chinese proteins used in some pet food production. Only a single batch of 55-pound bags of Ol' Roy Complete Nutrition dog food is being recalled. The dog food was produced at a plant in Manassas, VA, and distributed to 69 Wal-Mart stores in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Ohio.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/19076207/>

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## **Water Sector**

18. *June 06, Associated Press* — **Police: South Carolina man threatened water supply.** A South Carolina man was charged Wednesday, June 6, with threatening to poison the capital city's water system using chemicals he had illegally buried in his back yard, claims that led to the evacuation of about 35 homes, police said. Robert Russell Bowers claimed the chemicals in a hole in his back yard in a city neighborhood would poison the city's water system and blow up three city blocks, police said. Residents were evacuated from their homes for about six hours Tuesday, June 5. The chemical that was found buried, hydrochloric acid, is commonly used in swimming pools and to clean bricks and concrete.

Source: <http://www.thestate.com/312/story/83925.html>

19. *June 06, WBRC (AL)* — **Water restrictions mandatory for Birmingham, Trussville.**

Birmingham and Trussville, AL, water customers were notified Wednesday, June 6, of mandatory water restrictions taking effect in response to the continued drought. The Birmingham Water Works (BWW) is moving to its Stage Three water conservation plan, effective Thursday. Stage Three calls for surcharges for customers and entities that violate watering restrictions. The Birmingham Water Works said reaching this stage means that drought conditions have severely affected the reliability of the BWW's water resources and its ability to adequately meet the water demands of its customers. The Birmingham Water Works serves 750,000 customers in Jefferson, Shelby, Blount, St. Clair and Walker counties. Trussville Utilities provides water to more than 10,000 homes in Jefferson and St. Clair counties.

Source: <http://www.myfoxa1.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=3418148&version=2&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.2.1>

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## **Public Health Sector**

20. *June 07, Reuters* — **Diseases caught in hospital are growing threat.** One in 10 patients entering a European hospital can expect to catch an infection there and drug-resistant microbes caught through healthcare are a rapidly growing threat, European Union (EU) health officials said on Thursday, June 7. The European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) said that every year some three million people in EU countries catch a disease associated with healthcare and that around 50,000 die as a result. The ECDC said a key reason for the rising number of drug-resistant bacteria was the large amount of antibiotics being used, which encourages resistant strains to emerge.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSL0585818620070607>
21. *June 06, Associated Press* — **Bird flu found near Kuala Lumpur.** The H5N1 strain of bird flu has been detected outside Kuala Lumpur, one year after Malaysia was declared free of the disease, the government said Wednesday, June 6. A statement released by the Department of Veterinary Services said 60 birds were reported Saturday to have died within three days in Paya Jaras Hilir village in Selangor state, which surrounds Malaysia's main city, Kuala Lumpur. Tests on Tuesday confirmed they had died of H5N1, Ramlee Rahmat, deputy director-general of public health, told The Associated Press.  
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/06/06/AR2007060602044.html>
22. *June 06, Agence France-Presse* — **Roche announces major recall of HIV drug.** Swiss pharmaceutical group Roche announced Wednesday, June 6, a major recall of its anti-HIV drug Viracept after discovering a contamination in tablets. "Roche ... recalls in Europe and some other world regions all batches of Viracept powder and tablets," the group said in a statement. It said that the U.S., Canada and Japan were not affected by the recall. A detailed chemical analysis of the affected tablets showed they contain higher than normal levels of methanesulfonic acid ethyl ester. Roche, which said the abnormal level of the substance was a "chemical impurity," advised patients to contact their doctors to discuss alternative therapies.  
Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070606/hl\\_afp/switzerlandpharm a\\_070606191005](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070606/hl_afp/switzerlandpharm a_070606191005)
23. *June 06, University of California, San Francisco* — **New bacterium discovered, related to cause of trench fever.** A close cousin of the bacterium that debilitated thousands of World War I soldiers has been isolated at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) from a patient who had been on an international vacation. The woman, who has since recovered, suffered from symptoms similar to malaria or typhoid fever, two infections that can occur in returning travelers. But genetic detective work revealed that she was infected with a new bacterium that had never before been isolated from a human. A UCSF infectious disease team, in collaboration with colleagues from other institutions, found that the new microbe is genetically similar to one spread by body lice in the trenches during World War I. That bacterium, called Bartonella quintana, caused a disease known as trench fever, and debilitated tens of thousands of soldiers with severe leg and back pain and recurrent fevers. The new species, recently named Bartonella rochalimae, is also closely related to the bacterium identified about 10 years ago as the cause of cat scratch disease: Bartonella henselae, which infects more than 25,000 people a year in the U.S.  
Source: <http://pub.ucsf.edu/newsservices/releases/200706061/>



24. *June 06, CIDRAP News* — **Physician survey shows mixed views on pandemic risk.** Fewer than half of physicians who responded to a survey at a recent conference in Europe said they thought an influenza pandemic was very likely in the next few years. The survey was an anonymous electronic poll conducted at a pediatric infectious disease course at Oxford University in England. The group included 161 physicians, mostly from Europe, with half from the United Kingdom. The findings revealed that only 72 (44.7 percent) of respondents took the view that an avian influenza pandemic is "almost inevitable" or "very likely" within "the next few years." Seventy-three physicians, or 45.4 percent, thought a pandemic was "possible" in that time span, while 16 (9.9 percent) viewed such an event as unlikely or very unlikely. The researchers also asked if attendees had gathered a supply of the antiviral drug oseltamivir for personal or family use. Only 11 (7.9 percent) of 139 respondents said they had. By training level, only 1 of 27 infectious disease specialists reported having acquired the antiviral, but among those in infectious disease training, five of 24 (17.2 percent) had their own supply. Source: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/jun0607physicians.html>
25. *June 06, National Institutes of Health* — **NIAID releases tuberculosis research agenda.** The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Wednesday, June 6, released its NIAID Research Agenda for Multidrug–Resistant (MDR) and Extensively Drug–Resistant (XDR) Tuberculosis (TB). While focusing on MDR/XDR TB, many of the research priorities identified in this document also relate to drug–sensitive tuberculosis. The research priorities identified in the agenda build on a foundation of ongoing NIAID–supported TB research, which currently comprises more than 300 research projects worldwide. Diagnosing, treating and controlling the spread of TB has become increasingly complicated because of the HIV/AIDS co–epidemic and the emergence of MDR and XDR TB, which threatens to set TB control efforts back to the pre–antibiotic era. The research agenda specifically describes six critical areas where additional investigation is needed to close gaps in our understanding of MDR/XDR TB and to improve the clinical management of people with TB: Finding new TB diagnostic tools Improving therapy for all forms of TB, including MDR/XDR TB; Understanding basic biology and immunology of TB Studying MDR/XDR TB epidemiology; Enhancing the clinical management of MDR/XDR TB in people with or without HIV/AIDS Improving TB prevention strategies, including vaccines. Agenda: [http://www3.niaid.nih.gov/healthscience/healthtopics/tuberculosis/Research/PDF/NIAID\\_MDRXDR\\_TBresearchAgenda06-06-07.htm](http://www3.niaid.nih.gov/healthscience/healthtopics/tuberculosis/Research/PDF/NIAID_MDRXDR_TBresearchAgenda06-06-07.htm) Source: <http://www.nih.gov/news/pr/jun2007/niaid-06.htm>
26. *June 05, Associated Press* — **Second New Mexico plague case confirmed.** A Torrance, NM, woman was listed in critical condition Tuesday, June 5, with plague. The state Department of Health said the 58–year–old woman developed bubonic plague, which progressed to plague pneumonia. Officials are investigating her home to determine if there's a risk to other people. It was the second case of plague confirmed in New Mexico this year. A San Juan County man recovered after being infected in April. New Mexico had eight cases of human plague, two of them fatal, in 2006. Five of the cases came from Bernalillo County. Santa Fe, San Miguel and Torrance counties had one case each. The state reported four human plague cases in 2005 and none in 2004. Plague information: [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/submenus/sub\\_plague.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/submenus/sub_plague.htm)

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## **Government Sector**

27. *June 07, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-935T: Information Security: Agencies Report Progress, but Sensitive Data Remain at Risk (Testimony)**. For many years, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) has reported that weaknesses in information security are a widespread problem with potentially devastating consequences—such as intrusions by malicious users, compromised networks, and the theft of personally identifiable information—and has identified information security as a governmentwide high-risk issue. Concerned by reports of significant vulnerabilities in federal computer systems, Congress passed the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA), which permanently authorized and strengthened the information security program, evaluation, and reporting requirements for federal agencies. In this testimony, GAO discusses security incidents reported at federal agencies, the continued weaknesses in information security controls at major federal agencies, agencies' progress in performing key control activities, and opportunities to enhance FISMA reporting and independent evaluations. To address these objectives, GAO analyzed agency, inspectors general (IG), and GAO issued and draft reports on information security. <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07935thigh.pdf>  
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-935T>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

28. *June 06, Federal Emergency Management Agency* — **President declares major disaster for Nebraska**. The head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced Wednesday, June 6, that federal disaster aid has been made available for the state of Nebraska to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes during the period of May 4–19, 2007. FEMA Administrator David Paulison said the assistance was authorized under a major disaster declaration issued for the state by President Bush. The President's action makes federal funding available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes in Blaine, Brown, Cass, Custer, Gage, Garfield, Jefferson, Johnson, Keya Paha, Knox, Loup, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Saunders, and Wheeler Counties.  
Source: <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=36810>
29. *June 06, Indianapolis Star* — **Long-awaited communications center opens in Indiana**. On Wednesday, June 6, the police, fire and ambulance services throughout Hendricks County, IN, will begin to have a long-awaited communications and dispatching center to speed their response to emergencies. After years of debate, the Communications Center opens in Plainfield's police and public safety building. The service starts Wednesday handling 911 calls

and police–fire communications for Plainfield, and then adds all the other agencies over the next couple months. The \$7.6 million facility uses state–of–the–art technology. The goal is to get the right kind of help from the closest source, even if that means crossing old jurisdictional boundaries. The key is that the communications facility serves all agencies equally. The unified center brings together all the emergency response agencies in Avon, Brownsburg, Danville, Plainfield, the Hendricks sheriff, and the small town marshals and township fire departments in the county. Brand new is the way in which the Hendricks Communications Center is connected to other public safety communications systems. It is tied to both the Hoosier Safe–T system of the Indiana State Police and to the Metropolitan Emergency Communication Agency's voice and record–keeping system for Marion County.

Source: <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070606/LOCAL0505/706060357/1020/LOCAL05>

30. *June 06, KABC–TV (CA)* — **Emergency officials in southern California participate in disaster drill.** A terrorist drill was conducted in Hawaiian Gardens, CA, Wednesday morning, June 6, to determine if emergency officials in southern California are prepared for disaster. One big lesson for a lot of people is that if this was a real terrorist attack, any response would have to be a lot quicker. Members of the fire and sheriff's department, as well as medical personnel from nine area hospitals, participated in the drill. Officials say the point is to prepare for a possible bioterrorism attack. Fire officials say the most important rule they have learned from this drill is keep the victims together. Rick Dominguez, Los Angeles County Fire: "If something like this happens, you're going to have people running out. You know, they say about 75 to 80 percent of the actual victims are going to be taking off, they are going to be scared, and going into the local hospitals and contaminating them. So, our responsibility, along with the Sheriff's, is to corral up all of the victims." Authorities say that in any situation they like to contain an area within 30 minutes, and from there it could take anywhere from five to seven minutes to treat each person.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=local&id=5367513>

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## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

31. *June 06, Reuters* — **IBM to buy Watchfire security software firm.** IBM said on Wednesday, June 6, it will buy privately held security and compliance testing software company Watchfire Corp. for an undisclosed amount. The deal is expected to close in the third quarter, IBM said in a statement. IBM said Watchfire's technology would be combined with IBM's Rational software products, which let users conduct performance tests while developing software. Top technology companies including Microsoft Corp., Cisco Systems Inc. and Google Inc. have been acquiring security companies to protect customers from malicious software attacks and spam mail.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1895,2142284,00.asp>

32. *June 06, IDG News Service* — **Google acquires server software company PeakStream.** Google on Tuesday, June 5, acquired PeakStream, a developer of software for multicore and parallel processors, the company said. PeakStream's Website was not available following the acquisition. A version of its product page cached on Google's Website described it as the first

commercial software product to allow programming of multicore and parallel processors, allowing optimization of these increasingly prevalent chipsets.

Source: <http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/06/06/Google-acquires-Peakstream-1.html>

33. *June 06, InformationWeek* — **Critical bugs discovered in Yahoo Messenger.** Yahoo is working on a patch for critical Yahoo Messenger vulnerabilities that could enable a remote hacker to take control of a user's system. "We recently learned of a buffer overflow security issue in an ActiveX control," a Yahoo spokesperson said in an e-mail to InformationWeek. "This control is part of the code for Web cam image upload and viewing. Upon learning of this issue, we began working towards a resolution and expect to have a fix shortly."  
Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/news/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=199901856>

34. *June 06, Agence France Presse* — **Hoax text message spreads tsunami terror in Indonesia.** Thousands of people fled their homes in panic on the Indonesian coast after hoax text messages spread warning them that a tsunami will hit the region, journalists and officials said Wednesday, June 6. "The possibility is that a tsunami may take place on June 7," said part of a short telephone text message (SMS) that is widely circulating in various coastal areas of Nusa Tenggara province, local journalists said. A check of several coastal districts in the province showed that thousands had left their homes on the coast in at least three districts to flee to higher grounds since Tuesday, they said. The regional meteorology and geophysics office said that the SMS warning did not come from their office. "Earthquakes and tsunami cannot be predicted and we have not issued such warning," office head Rivai Marulak told AFP.  
Source: [http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=070606101917.31jf2eyb&show\\_article=1](http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=070606101917.31jf2eyb&show_article=1)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## **Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector**

35. *June 07, CNN Money* — **AmerenUE disputes statement from dam safety official.** Ameren Corp.'s (AEE) AmerenUE unit denied any criminal tampering with evidence from the collapse of the Taum Sauk Reservoir in December 2005 and disputes that any new information has surfaced in the investigation. Earlier this week, James Alexander, head of dam safety for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, alleged the company altered the evidence. AmerenUE said the investigation has been completed and the Missouri Attorney General "concluded there was no basis for criminal charges."  
Source: [http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200706061511DOWJONESDJONLINE000866\\_FORTUNE5.htm](http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200706061511DOWJONESDJONLINE000866_FORTUNE5.htm)

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## **General Sector**

Nothing to report.

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### **Contact DHS**

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto:nicc@dhs.gov) or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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